

VIRGINIA HUD LINES

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E-Briefs from the Richmond Office of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

800/842-2610, extension 3742

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www.hud.gov/virginia

HOPE & HELP

Citing studies suggesting Katrina evacuees have faced discrimination in searching for new housing, HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson and the Ad Council launch radio, television and newspaper public service campaign promoting their rights under Fair Housing Act. "These Americans deserve our best," he said of the *There is hope, There is help* ads, "not a door closed in their face."

BOOSTER BANK

The Federal Home Loan Bank Board of Atlanta has awarded \$2 million in grants and subsidies to 12 Virginia projects, including downpayment help and homeownership rehab in southwest Virginia, apartment rehabs in Middleburg and Yorktown, new rental complexes for the elderly in Yorktown, for families in Dante, Onancock and Richmond and for persons with disabilities in Bristol, King George and Virginia Beach and a rental complex for domestic violence victims in Lebanon. Winning groups were People Inc., Community Housing Partners, Virginia Beach CDC, Accomack-Northampton Housing Authority, Imani Intergenerational CDC, Windy Hill Foundation, and Southwest Virginia Housing Corporation with sponsorship by BB&T, Towne Bank Highlands Union Bank, First Bank & Trust and Union Bank & Trust. Details at http://www.fhlbatl.com/fhlb_content.cfm?lev1=5cjs By the way, DHCD is hosting the Bank's "how to" workshops in Richmond, February 7th, in Virginia Beach, February 8th and Roanoke, February 9th. Contact Ramona.chapman@dhcd.virginia.gov

!!! e-Flash !!!

The General Section of HUD's 2006 SuperNOFA was published in January 20th *Federal Register*. Consider it fair warning that HUD's SuperNOFA competition will begin soon. Get e-ready to compete by visiting www.grants.gov/RegistrationChecklist. And, do it TODAY!

SUPPORTING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Saying neither the elderly nor persons with disabilities "should ever have to worry about being able to afford a decent place to live," HUD Secretary Jackson has announced the award of \$8.9 million in capital funds and \$1.8 million in rent subsidies for 113 new units of housing under the Section 202 Housing for the Elderly and Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities to Virginia groups. Bay Aging will build a 19-unit complex in Kilmarnock and Metropolitan Housing a 72-unit complex in Vinton, both for the elderly, while Rockbridge Mental Health will open a 6-bed group home and Accessible Space, Inc. a 15-unit complex in Exmore, both for persons with disabilities..

BRIEF BRIEFS

Bill Shelton reappointed as director of Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development, a post he's held since 1998. . Governor-elect Tim Kaine spends day before inauguration volunteering with Peninsula Habitat for Humanity. . Community Housing Partners welcomes Maria Carver as manager of HomeWorks homeownership center. . VHDA launches toll-free, bilingual hotline at 1/877-VHDA-123 to "answer affordable housing questions". . *Herald Courier* says Bristol, Virginia, and Bristol, Tennessee to partner in revitalizing State Street which serves as both city limits and state line. . Governor Warner awards \$5 million in General Assembly funds for 25 water and sewer projects in Cumberland Plateau, LENOWISCO and Mount Rogers planning districts. . Mark Berven of Nationwide Insurance in Midlothian named to Virginia Fair Housing Board. . January 23rd *Virginian Pilot* profiles HUD Youthbuild program run by Portsmouth Redevelopment & Housing and Tidewater Builders Association. . Shannon Valentine, former president of Lynchburg Habitat for Humanity, elected to House of Delegates. . Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and Virginia Economic Partnership set March 14th and 15th for Brownfields Redevelopment Conference at Richmond Omni. . Charlottesville Area Association of REALTORS names Piedmont Housing Alliance its "affiliate of the year". . Register for Appalachian Regional Commission's "Entrepreneurial Vision for Regional Development" in Arlington March 12th to 14th at www.arc.gov.

WELL-COME NEWS

Southeast Rural Community Assistance Program in Roanoke has won an \$880,000 USDA/Rural Development grant to establish a Household Well Loan Program for income-eligible families – 100 percent or less of the non-metro median income –in Virginia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina and South Carolina. A maximum of \$8,000 at 1 percent and payable within 20 years can be used to repair an existing or drill a new well on an existing home in a rural area. For more, contact tpohl@sercap.org or call 540/345-1184, extension 22.

YOUTH BUILDING

The Lonesome Pine Office of Youth in Big Stone Gap, Petersburg Urban Ministries, Total Action Against Poverty in Roanoke and the Bristol and Waynesboro housing authorities have won a total of \$2.7 million in HUD Youthbuild grants. The grants will help 126 at-risk young people finish high school and acquire construction skills while building 12 new homes and rehabbing 90 apartments. "Tremendous news," Lonesome Pine director Paul Kuczko, told *The Big Stone Gap Post* on winning the group's first Youthbuild grant.

BRIEF BRIEFS TOO

January 27th *Federal Register* publishes USDA funding notice for \$99 million Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing program with applications due June 16th. . Virginia Social Services posts Earned Income Tax Credit page at www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/eitc/index.html with statewide list of free tax preparation sites. . Monticello Community Action names Phillip Dukes new director. . Richmond Redevelopment & Housing starts building first 32 of 308 homes in HOPE VI Revitalization plan. . Virginia Water Resource Center at <http://www.vtserves.vt.edu/dd/STEP.html> sets March 7th deadline for help this summer on local water projects. . \$969,500 in Abandoned Mine funds awarded to hook 124 homes in Lee and Tazewell counties to public water. . Virginia Association of REALTORS holds Legislative Conference in Richmond February 15th to 17th. . Letters of intent for USDA Community Food Projects due February 13th. . Virginia Department of Historic Resources hosts rehabilitation tax credit workshops February 3rd in Richmond, February 10th in Winchester. . Deadline for HUD Woodson Awards honoring removal of regulatory barriers to housing is March 15th. . HUD awards Bristol, Danville, Newport News, Portsmouth and Roanoke housing authorities \$2 million for ROSS Family Service Delivery and Neighborhood Networks.

DON'T FORGET

Interested in HUD and other Federal funding streams? Attend free, two-day "Grantwriting & More" workshops at Virginia Beach Central Library February 22nd & 23rd or at Hampton University March 7th & 8th. Contact anne_davis@hud.gov or call 800/842-2610, extension 3741

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